Amendments to the Specification:

Please insert above "Title of Invention" the following sentence as a cross reference to related applications:

This is a Continuation-in-part of prior application Serial No.: 10/196,896 filed on July 16, 2002 under 35 CFR 1.53(b)

Please replace the paragraphs starting with "FIG. 12" beginning on page 7, lines 12-18, with the following amended paragraphs:

FIG. 12 is a partially enlarged cross-sectional view of a variable displacement compressor of a third alternative preferred embodiment according to the present invention; ~~and~~

FIG. 13 is a partially enlarged cross-sectional view of a variable displacement compressor of a fourth alternative preferred embodiment according to the present invention~~.~~ ; and

Please insert the following paragraph starting with "FIG. 14" beginning on page 7, lines 19, with the following new paragraph:

FIG. 14 is a partially enlarged cross-sectional view of a variable displacement compressor of a tenth alternative embodiment according to the present invention.

Please insert the following paragraphs starting with "(10)" beginning on page 23, lines 6, with the following new paragraphs:

(10) As shown in FIG. 14, in a tenth alternative embodiment, an alternative hinge mechanism 42a is provided between the lug plate 22a and the swash plate 23a. The hinge mechanism 42a includes a pair of lug plate protrusions 221a and a swash plate protrusion 231a. Although only one lug plate protrusion 221a is shown in FIG. 14, the two lug plate protrusions 221a protrude in parallel from the lug plate 22a in perpendicular direction toward the swash plate 23a. The swash plate protrusion 231a protrudes from the swash plate 23 toward the lug plate 22 and between the pair of the lug plate

protrusions 221a. Thus, the lug plate 22a is coupled to the swash plate 23a by the hinge mechanism 42a, and the rotation of the lug plate 22a is transmitted to the swash plate 23a via the protrusions 221a and 231a.

A vibration damping member 53 made of the vibration damping alloy is provided on the lug plate 22a between the pair of the lug plate protrusions 221a. Alternatively, the vibration damping member 53 is additionally provided on inner walls of the lug plate protrusions 221a in an integrated manner. The swash plate protrusion 231a slidably contacts the vibration damping member 53. The hinge mechanism 42a allows the swash plate 23a to tilt with respect to the axis of the drive shaft 18 and to rotate integrally with the drive shaft 18. While the vibration damping member 53 keeps in slide contact with the swash plate protrusion 231a, the relative sliding speed between the vibration damping member 53 and the swash plate protrusion 231a is relatively small. Therefore, the durability of the vibration damping member 53 does not substantially deteriorate by the slide contact of the vibration damping member 53 and the swash plate protrusion 231a.